

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

April 29, 1997

In Reply Refer To:
1115 (650) P

EMS TRANSMISSION 5/1/97
Information Bulletin No. 97-127

To: All State Directors

From: Director

Subject: Excellence in Interpretation or Environmental Education Award DD: 06/09/97

We invite you to nominate one or more outstanding employees for the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Excellence in Interpretation or Environmental Education Award. The recipient of this award will be honored at the National Association for Interpretation (NAI) National Workshop Awards Ceremony Sunday, November 9, 1997, in Beaumont, Texas. Second, third and fourth place winners will also be recognized. The Recreation Group (WO-250) or the Environmental Education and Volunteers Group (WO-650) will pay travel expenses for the honorees.

The purpose of this program is to recognize the accomplishments and contributions of employees who have made a significant difference in the field of interpretation and/or environmental education. The award was created to stimulate and reward creative thinking and activity within the BLM.

The National Park Service (NPS), the United States Forest Service (USFS), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and NAI will also recognize their top interpreters and environmental educators at the November ceremony. The agency heads will present the awards to the honorees.

Nominations should be submitted by **June 9, 1997**, to Amy Galperin, BLM's Lead for Interpretation, at the Colorado State Office, 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80215. The attachment outlines nomination guidelines. The winner will be announced in July. For further information, please call Amy Galperin at (303) 239-3960 or Mary Tisdale at (202) 452-5163.

Signed by:
Mary Tisdale
Environmental Education &
Volunteers Group

Authenticated by:
Robert M. Williams
Directives and Records
Group, WO540

1 Attachment

1 - Nomination Criteria, Bureau of Land Management Excellence in Interpretation & Education Award (2pp)

NOMINATION CRITERIA
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
EXCELLENCE IN INTERPRETATION AND EDUCATION AWARD

1. **ELIGIBILITY** - Any BLM employee involved in interpretation and/or environmental education efforts is eligible. Emphasis should be placed on actual accomplishments, rather than job assignment.

2. **PURPOSE OF THE AWARD** - The BLM's Excellence in Interpretation and Education Award was created to recognize and reward outstanding contributions to interpretation and/or environmental education efforts in the BLM.

3. **NOMINATION PACKAGE** - The nomination should include the following: Nominee's name, address, and phone number; BLM contact or employee's supervisor; and a justification describing the nominee's accomplishments. The nomination justification should be a concise description of the nominee's project(s) or efforts that show why he/she deserves this award. The justification should address criteria below so the nomination committee can easily compare nomination packages. The nomination justification should be a maximum of three single-spaced, typed pages. Up to five pages of supportive material, including photographs and letters of recommendation, can be attached. Photographs should be properly identified and mounted on 8-1/2" x 11" paper.

4. **NOMINATION CRITERIA** -

Nominations will be judged on the following:

- (1) creativity and originality;
- (2) enhancing the public's awareness of the cultural and natural resources of the public lands and their relationship to people;
- (3) providing members of the public opportunities to acquire the knowledge, values, attitudes, commitment and skills needed to protect and improve both public and private lands;
- (4) helping BLM accomplish management goals and objectives;
- (5) involving partners; and
- (6) developing programs that are accessible and sensitive to a diverse audience.

The nominee's project should be:

- (1) completed within the preceding calendar year (but may involve a multi-year project);
- (2) the employee's official duty and not a personal project that did not have sanction within the agency;
- (3) the employee's efforts should result in completion of field level products, projects, or programs.

5. **SELECTION COMMITTEE** -

The selection committee will consist of a BLM national or state lead for interpretation, a representative from the Washington Office Recreation Group or a Washington Office resource group, the Director of the National Association for Interpretation or his/her appointed representative, the Director of the North American Association for Environmental Education or his appointed representative, and a member of the Washington Office Environmental Education and Volunteers Group.